

# Postsecondary Credit Guidance

## Background

The Division of College, Career and Technical Education (CCTE) established the Tennessee Specific Industry Certification (TSIC) Key Partners advisory council that includes industry, government, professional, and both secondary and higher education partners to serve as key leaders who are instrumental in driving the development and approval of the TSIC program.

The TSIC Agriculture Key Partners included:

- Tennessee Commission of Agriculture,
- Tennessee Farm Bureau President,
- University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Chancellor,
- Tennessee Higher Education Commission Assistant Executive Director for Academic Affairs,
- Tennessee Board of Regents Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs,
- Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association Vice President,
- Tennessee Board of Regents Community Colleges Representative,
- Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development Assistant Commissioner,
- Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry Vice President of Government Affairs and Community Relations, and
- Tennessee Association of Agricultural Educators.

The TSIC Human Services Key Partners included:

- Tennessee Board of Regents Director of Early College Initiatives,
- Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association Vice President,
- Tennessee Tech University Departmental Professor,
- University of Tennessee – Martin Department Associate Professor,
- University of Tennessee Institute of Agricultural Assistant Dean,
- Tennessee Business Roundtable,
- University of Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development Assistant Commissioner,
- Tennessee Association of Family and Consumer Sciences,
- Tennessee Association of Teachers of Family and Consumer Sciences,
- Tennessee Academy of Nutrition and Dietitians, and
- National Association of Social Workers

**Tennessee Specific Industry Certification (TSIC):** The TSIC program, content areas, and learning outcomes or objectives were approved by the department and the TSIC Key Partners. A pilot program was started with Animal Science for the 2016-17 academic school year followed by Dietetics and Nutrition, Horticulture Science, and Human and Social Sciences in the 2017-18 academic school year. The course content and certification exams are aligned to postsecondary standards.

- TSIC workgroup members representing Tennessee’s postsecondary, secondary, and industry organizations developed learning outcomes or objectives and a capstone certification exam.
- Students only have **one attempt at the exam to earn both postsecondary credit and industry credentialing**. Additional attempts will earn **industry certification only**.

### Awarding Postsecondary Credit

- Students who meet or exceed the established cut score for their TSIC exam are eligible to receive postsecondary credits at any public postsecondary institution in Tennessee and will be awarded a TSIC credential from Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation.
- Upon matriculation, the student is responsible for contacting the postsecondary institution’s Records Office to provide their TSIC exam information or request the institution to access the postsecondary database to verify the exam. This is the same postsecondary database used for statewide dual credit. If additional verification is needed, contact [TSIC.Exams@tn.gov](mailto:TSIC.Exams@tn.gov).
- Postsecondary institutions may determine how the eligible credit may be used at their institution: as elective credit, as a major area elective credit, or as a direct course substitution.

<b>Tennessee Specific Industry Exams (TSIC)</b>				
<b>TSIC Exam</b>	<b>Approved Course Code</b>	<b>Questions</b>	<b>Time Limit</b>	<b>Cut Score</b>
Animal Science	C18H21 Veterinary Science	100 Multiple Choice	120 min.	70 points
Dietetics and Nutrition	C19H16 Nutrition Science & Diet Therapy	100 Multiple Choice	120 min.	70 points
Horticulture Science	C18H16 Landscaping & Turf Science	100 Multiple Choice	120 min.	70 points
Human and Social Sciences	C19H18 Family Studies	100 Multiple Choice	120 min.	70 points